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TO THE VOTERS OF THE

SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT!

SAMUEL M. MEEK.
CAMP 35TH MISSISSIPPI VOLUNTEERS.
August 25, 1862.

Mr. [illegible]:—It is to be hoped that none of your readers will be disappointed in not reading a war correspondence, when this shall fall under their observation. The manner and language of describing marches, battles, and personal encounters, though interesting in the main, have, during these times of excitement, become almost stereotyped. Letters from the camp, from the field, from "our special correspondent," all tell the same tale in substance, and we have nothing but the different modes of serving up the dish, to make it palatable to the general reader. Knowing our inability in this culinary respect, it is not, therefore, our intention or desire, to invite your readers to a feast of bullets, blood, bombs, and bayonets, as is invariably spread out in the columns of all the newspapers after a general engagement. It is our purpose, then, to speak of a matter directly concerning the people at home, assigning its high importance as a sufficient reason why we would make mention of it amid the storm now raging over and around us.

The gentleman whose name stands at the head of this article, is a candidate for re-election to the office of District Attorney of the Sixth Judicial District of our State. His claims upon that office, are well known to the people of the District, and while we would attempt to give additional ones, we hope that the old may not be lost sight of in the investigation of the new. He is now in the service of the country, and a member of this Regiment, in a position plainly testifying that the honors of office, offered no inducement to his response to the call of the government. Motives, unselfish and patriotic, such as are manifested by all true lovers of their country, prompted his entering the profession of arms to contend for the great rights involved in the present struggle. The maintainance of a common interest and that the dearest, demand the strength and energies of a whole people. But how often, when life and fortune are required for its support, do we see every cover of law taken advantage of, hiding behind mere pleas of excuses, and the mighty in words failing, when it comes to blows hard and heavy. Being the present incumbent of the office for which he again aspires, he is by National and State laws exempt from military duty. Few men thus exempted, have shown a practical devotion to the country. The walls of civil office afford a safe barricade against the dangers of bloody war, and many sit quietly behind, ready to rush forth at the first signal of success, and appropriate a full share of the benefits. But Mr. Meek, disregarding this protection, has enlisted twice, and is now serving the country in the way she most needs. He has thrown aside the green-bag, seized his sword, and cast his lot with the soldier in the camp and on the field, sharing his hardships, enduring his privations, hazarding life, and sacrificing the ease and comfort of office, for the great cause at stake. He has [illegible] and nobly acts the part of the soldier in the defence of his invaded soil.

It is our good fortune to be under the immediate command of Lieut. Meek, and we feel that we could have made no better selection could have found no one who is more ready to lead his men where most required, and no one in whom they have greater confidence as a friend and officer in matters tending their personal comfort and welfare. His kindness of heart, his generous and social qualities, have won him the love and esteem of the entire company, while his exaction of the strictest obedience to military law, place him high in the estimation of his brother-officers and respect of the men. Camp-life is the great ordeal which prove men's true character. Here the good and the bad of a man are separated, and each stand out distinct and apart, so that at a glance can be told the prominent quality. In this has Lieut. Meek been fully tested, and come out ringing of the true metal, a blending of all the combinations which make the citizen-soldier the truest and best safe-guard of a nation's honor and interest.

That we may not appear alone in the recommendation of Mr. Meek, we would state, that our Regiment is composed of over a thousand men, nearly all from the Sixth Judicial District, and every company from the District has, in a series of resolutions, unanimously endorsed, and earnestly requested their friends at home to re-elect him. Not entitled to vote—and very unjustly, we consider—by the laws of our State, his camrades-in arms have taken this method of expressing their preference, and we hope it will meet with due appreciation at the polls in October next. It should be borne in mind, that the men of this Regiment are of middle age, men of family, of property, the "bone and sinew of the land," and have all that regard for civil protection of their private interests that men can have, drawn away from the quiet of home to enter the strife of arms. War is naturally repulsive to their feelings—peace is sweet to them, but they have obeyed the [illegible] wife, children, and fireside, and now that they hold them ever dear, they signify who shall stand sentinel at the post of District Attorney,

Mr. Meek's abilities in this position, have marked his term of office with a success which all will agree, stands a fair record to his already high reputation. He has displayed no small talent in the discharge of his duties, as the bench and bar will bear ample testimony. Criminals and violaters of law, seldom fail to have full justice dealt upon them when arraigned before the courts of the country. Nothing that offends "the peace and dignity of the State," escapes his observation. In short, he has fully come up to the expectation of his friends, and filled the office with honor to the State and credit to himself.

Taking into consideration his [illegible] lawyer [illegible] get the danger, [illegible] a tried man, and [illegible] that nearly all the [illegible] steady, law abiding [illegible], have [illegible] scene of action, [illegible] will emerge [illegible] abroad with [illegible] absence. A man, [illegible] of justice before, [illegible] check than one whose [illegible] of office. We would say that this [illegible] making new officers; [illegible] experienced ones are [illegible]. Our country [illegible] in no condition for making experiments; [illegible] which we know to be good let us use it, and make the most of it; let us not be seeking for that which is better, lest we [illegible] good that prompts us to these remarks. It [illegible] no electioneering spirit, for we [illegible] that he has any opponent [illegible], and we would that some one more [illegible] to the use of the pen than ourself [illegible] on the people at home the [illegible] judicious election of civil officers [illegible] demands it. Let us not be [illegible] the military. While the soldier [illegible] front, battling the common [illegible] keep a careful watch to the [illegible] none but the tried and [illegible] take charge of civil offices, [illegible] fastened upon the bosom of our [illegible] country.

[illegible] ILLI

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted by every company of the 35th Mississippi regiment, in camp near Vicksburg:

WHEREAS, An election for District Attorney of the 6th Judicial District of Mississippi, composed of the counties of Lowndes, Oktibbeha, Winston, Nechoba, Kemper and Noxubee, will take place on the first Monday in October [illegible]

WHEREAS, Our companion in arms, SAMUEL M. MEEK, the present incumbent is a candidate for re-election, and will have no opportunity, before the election, to see the people in person, and whereas, being out of the district ourselves, we will have no right to vote; Therefore,

1st. *Be it Resolved*, That we earnestly recommend to our friends at home, to support Lieut. Meek for re election, believing that he has ably and faithfully discharged the onerous duties of the office during the term which, in a few months will expire,

2nd. *Resolved*, That Lieut. Meek has manifested his devotion to the cause in which we are engaged in an eminent degree, by enlisting twice in the service, when, by National and State laws, he was, and still is, exempt from military duty.

3rd. *Resolved*, That we greatly desire our friends, and the voters generally in the county, to take into consideration these facts, and cast their ballots accordingly in the election.

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